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- 5.—1. *Annual Address delivered before the Albany Institute*, April, 1838, by JAMES FERGUSON. Albany : Alfred Southwick. 8vo. pp. 34.
2. *An Address, delivered before the Penobscot Association of Teachers, and Friends of Popular Education, at Levant, December 28th, 1837.* By E. G. CARPENTER. Bangor : S. S. Smith : 8vo. pp. 26.
3. *An Address on the Utility of Astronomy, delivered before the Young Men's Society, of Lynchburg, September 26th, 1837.* By Professor LANDON C. GARLAND, of Randolph-Macon College. Richmond : T. W. White. 8vo. pp. 8.

MR. Ferguson's discourse is chiefly devoted to a history of literary and scientific associations. He begins by stating the causes, which led to their establishment in the fifteenth century, and then proceeds to an historical sketch of several of the most celebrated national academies, such as the National Institute of France, and the Royal Society of England. He next details some of the objections to the established courses of universities, and quotes the severe comments of Bacon, Smith, Playfair, and Babbage. The concluding part of the Address discusses the effects of these societies upon the progress of science, and the material prosperity of nations, presenting on these topics a variety of interesting and striking views. The Address is written in a simple, correct, and unpretending style, and the matter is highly appropriate to the occasion on which it was delivered.

Mr. Carpenter's Address is on Popular Education, and the claims of our common schools. Bating a little high-flown language about liberty, knowledge, and so forth, and a few touches, towards the peroration, of exaggerated enthusiasm concerning the sacred office of the teacher and his immense responsibilities, the discourse is a very good one; and the views expressed in it, though by no means novel, are sound and manly. The last part of the Address is given to a statement of the powers and qualifications necessary to an efficient teacher. Some of them, surely, it was unnecessary to say any thing about. It seems like uttering uncalled-for truisms to declare gravely, that a good teacher "should be versed in the common branches of an English education," that "he should have a capacity for imparting instruction," that "he should know how to govern a school," that "he should tell the truth," and "that he should be a man of high moral character." These things are insisted on with infinite earnestness and convincing eloquence. Possibly this tone may be neces-

sary. Recent investigations have shown up the common-school system in a light not altogether so favorable as could be wished, and seem to indicate a very prevalent agreement with Dogberry's opinion, that reading and writing come by nature.

Professor Garland's Address on Astronomy is written with very great ability, and contains matter of high and permanent value. It is a popular exposition of the Utility of Astronomy in the practical concerns of life, and is worthy of all praise for clearness of statement and chaste beauty of style. It shows, on every page, the accurate attainments of the man of science, and the well-tempered enthusiasm of the scholar. We have rarely read a popular address, with which we have been so well pleased, both in respect to instruction and the gratification of taste, as with this.

6. — *Manual of Political Ethics, designed chiefly for the Use of Colleges and Students at Law. Part I. Book I. Ethics, General and Political. Book II. The State.* By FRANCIS LIEBER. Boston: Charles C. Little and James Brown. 1838. 8vo. pp. 443.

THE title of this book authorizes us to hope, that it will supply a want which has been painfully felt in colleges and professional schools. We have had no treatise on the science of politics at all adapted to the progress of inquiry and information, or to the state of civil and political institutions at the present day. Scraps might be gathered from Montesquieu, Locke, and Hume, and from the writers on natural law and civil polity; but it was difficult to fuse these into a connected system, or to collect from them any answer to most interesting questions, which may be said to have grown out of the historical events of our own times. Practice has outrun theory, but has not superseded the necessity of it. Perhaps the necessity is even increased; for, when men are once beyond the bounds of these much abused speculative principles, they are apt to catch fire, as it were, from license, and forget that abstract truths of limitation and restraint exist at all, or have any basis but individual opinion. They need to be reminded, that, though moral right forms the sure foundation of political privileges, it also circumscribes and hems them in, and that they cannot overleap the barriers without throwing discredit on the first principles of civil freedom. To consider political science, therefore, in its ethical relations, to show that the